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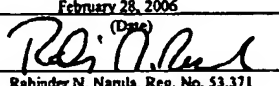
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Culbert et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3733
)	
Appl. No.	:	10/623,193)	I hereby certify that this correspondence and all
)	marked attachments are being deposited with the
Filed	:	July 18, 2003)	United States Postal Service as first-class mail in
)	an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for
For	:	METHOD AND APPARATUS)	Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA
		FOR SPINAL FIXATION)	22313-1450, on
)	<u>February 28, 2006</u>
)	(Date)
Examiner	:	Anuradha Ramana)	
)	Rabinder N. Narula, Reg. No. 53,371
)	
)	

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects the invention identified by the Examiner as Group II (Claims 18-28), drawn to a method of spinal fixation for prosecution in the present application. The present election is being made without traverse.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 2-28-06By: 

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